

C.) REMARKS

The Office Action mailed September 25, 2007 has been received and carefully considered. In the Office Action, claims 31-34 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Paine (U.S. Patent No. 3,579,041); and claims 19-23 and 25-30 are indicated to be allowed, for which Applicants express their appreciation.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 31-34 and 38 were rejected as being obvious over Paine. Applicants have cancelled claims 31-34 and 38, thereby rendering the Examiner's rejections moot. However, Applicants' canceling of the claims rejected by the Examiner does not indicate and should not be interpreted as Applicants' agreement with the Examiner regarding the patentability of those claims. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled claims in a continuation application.

D.) CONCLUSION

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the Application be allowed and passed to issue. In the event any outstanding issues remain, Applicants would appreciate the courtesy of a telephone call to Applicants' undersigned representative to resolve such issues in an expeditious manner.

This Amendment/Response has been filed within three months of the mailing date of the Office Action and it is believed that no additional fees are due with the filing of this paper. In the event that Applicants are mistaken in their calculations, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct any fees determined by the Patent Office to be due from, or credit any overpayment to, the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-1059.

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Respectfully submitted,

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